

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-70. (Canceled)

71. (New) A generator controller, comprising:

a processor;

a first input configured to receive signals from a generator;

an output configured to send signals to the generator;

a second input configured to receive signals from a plurality of operating condition sources;

a memory accessible by the processor, the memory containing stored programming instructions operable by the processor to control an operation of the generator and to inhibit operation of the generator if a signal representative of an undesirable condition is received from at least one of the plurality of operating condition sources, the programming instructions further causing the processor to switch the controller to a manual mode of operation when a signal representative of an undesirable condition is received, whereby in the manual mode of operation the generator is operable under manual control;

the stored programming further enabling the processor to decode electronic indicators produced by the generator; and

a display configured to present text messages related to the electronic indicators.

72. (New) The generator controller of claim 71, further comprising a stop input in communication with the processor, whereby in response to a selection of the stop input by a user the controller allows the operation of the generator even if a signal representative of an undesirable condition is received from at least a selected one of the plurality of operating condition sources.

73. (New) The generator controller of claim 71, wherein the selected one of the operating condition sources comprises a gas detector.

74. (New) The generator controller of claim 71, wherein the selected one of the operating condition sources comprises a parking brake.

75. (New) The generator controller of claim 71, wherein the selected one of the operating condition sources comprises a vehicle ignition and wherein the undesirable condition comprises the ignition being switched to an on position.

76. (New) The generator controller of claim 71, wherein the selected one of the operating condition sources comprises a building presence detector and wherein the undesirable condition comprises the presence of a building adjacent to a vehicle to which the generator is connected.

77. (New) The generator controller of claim 71, wherein the selected one of the operating condition sources comprises an external alternating current source, and wherein the undesirable condition comprises the presence of power available at the external alternating current source.

78. (New) The generator controller of claim 71, wherein the plurality of operating condition sources comprises a parking brake, a transmission neutral switch, and an ignition switch.

79. (New) A generator controller, comprising:  
an output configured to send signals to a generator;  
a first input configured to receive signals from a plurality of operating condition sources;  
and

a control component in communication with the output and the first input, the control component having a manual mode and an automatic mode and being configured to automatically inhibit operation of the generator if a signal representative of an undesirable condition is received from at least one of a first subset of the plurality of operating condition sources, the control component further being configured to switch to the manual mode when a signal representative of an undesirable condition is received from at least one of a second subset of the plurality of



operating condition sources, whereby in the manual mode the generator is operable under manual control.

80. (New) The generator controller of claim 79, further comprising:  
a second input configured to receive signals from the generator;  
a decoding component in communication with the second input, the decoding component being configured to decode electronic indicators produced by the generator; and  
a display configured to present text messages related to the electronic indicators.

81. (New) The generator controller of claim 79, wherein one of the first subset of operating condition sources comprises a gas detector.

82. (New) The generator controller of claim 79, wherein the one of the second subset of operating condition sources comprises a parking brake.

83. (New) The generator controller of claim 79, wherein one of the second subset of operating condition sources comprises a vehicle ignition and wherein the undesirable condition comprises the ignition being switched to an on position.

84. (New) The generator controller of claim 79, wherein the first subset of operating condition sources comprises a building presence detector and wherein the undesirable condition comprises the presence of a building adjacent to a vehicle to which the generator is connected.

85. (New) The generator controller of claim 79, wherein the first subset of operating condition sources comprises an external alternating current source, and wherein the undesirable condition comprises the presence of power available at the external alternating current source.

86. (New) The generator controller of claim 79, wherein second subset of operating condition sources comprises a parking brake, a transmission neutral switch, and an ignition switch.

87. (New) A generator controller, comprising:  
an output configured to send signals to a generator;



a first input configured to receive signals from a plurality of operating condition sources;  
a second input operable by a user to enable the user to select one of a plurality of controller modes of operation; and

a control component controlling the operation of the generator controller in accordance with the selected one of the plurality of controller modes of operation, the control component being in communication with the output and the first input, the control component having a manual mode and an automatic mode and, in accordance with the selected one of the plurality of controller modes of operation, being configured to automatically inhibit operation of the generator if a signal representative of an undesirable condition is received from at least one of a first subset of the plurality of operating condition sources, the control component further being configured to switch to the manual mode when a signal representative of an undesirable condition is received from at least one of a second subset of the plurality of operating condition sources, whereby in the manual mode the generator is operable under manual control.

88. (New) The generator controller of claim 87, further comprising:

a third input configured to receive signals from the generator;  
a decoding component in communication with the third input, the decoding component being configured to decode electronic indicators produced by the generator; and  
a display configured to present text messages related to the electronic indicators.

89. (New) The generator controller of claim 87, wherein one of the first subset of operating condition sources comprises a gas detector.

90. (New) The generator controller of claim 87, wherein second subset of operating condition sources comprises a parking brake, a transmission neutral switch, and an ignition switch.